



CLIFFS NATURAL RESOURCES INC.
United Taconite LLC
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February 6, 2017

Regional Administrator
Air and Radiation Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5 (A-18J)
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604

RE: United Taconite LLC Construction Completion and Startup Notification for Line 1 NO_x Reduction Control Installation Related to the Taconite Federal Implementation Plan Final Rule Published April 12, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

On April 12, 2016, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published its Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) Federal Implementation Plan (FIP) rule with an effective date of May 12, 2016. This rule establishes nitrogen oxide (NO_x) and sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emissions limits at taconite indurating furnaces as part of the Regional Haze Rule under the Clean Air Act. Among other requirements, the rule specifies the installation of NO_x reduction control for taconite indurating furnaces. United Taconite LLC (United) is submitting this letter to satisfy the completion of construction notification for burner installation and burner startup notification requirements as described in 40 C.F.R. 52.1235 (e)(2)(iii) and 40 C.F.R. 52.1235 (e)(2)(v), respectively.

As stated in 40 C.F.R. 52.1235 (b)(1)(iv)(A)(4), NO_x reduction control technology will be installed no later than 26 months from May 12, 2016. On January 26, 2017, United completed construction work for a new burner on its Line 1 Grate Kiln pellet furnace. On January 27, 2017, United started up the new burner technology on its Line 1 Grate Kiln pellet furnace. United has opted to begin this work well ahead of the deadline to evaluate the technology's operational performance (pellet quality and production), NO_x reduction potential, and fuel penalty implications.

Subsequent requirements for submitting pellet quality data, as described in 40 C.F.R. 52.1235 (b)(1)(iv)(A)(5), will begin 6 months after the burner start-up notification is submitted to EPA or 26 months from May 12, 2016, whichever is earlier.

If you have any questions regarding this submittal or require additional information, please contact me at (218) 744-7849 or via e-mail at Candice.Maxwell@cliffsnr.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Candice Maxwell".

Candice Maxwell
Area Manager – Environmental Affairs

cc: Santi Romani, United Taconite
Jason Aagenes, Cliffs Natural Resources